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10 July 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL TAYLOR

SUBJECT: Matters for discussion with General Lemnitzer on 11 July.

1. By the time you have seen General Lemnitzer tomorrow (Tuesday) you will have read over my pocket digest of recent papers on Berlin including several recent JCS papers. You will therefore be aware that in the JCS as elsewhere the subject of Berlin planning does not seem to have been treated in a coordinated and orderly manner (no fault of JCS of course). I would therefore recommend that you ask General Lemnitzer to brief you (or to have you briefed by an action officer) concerning the principal points that are going to appear in the JCS/Defense views which Mr. Bundy has requested in time for the 13 July meeting, especially as concerns "large scale non-nuclear ground action within four months of such time after October 15 as it may be ordered . . . assuming appropriate use of forces in Europe and assuming reinforcement from the U.S. as necessary to permit the use of 2, 4, 6 and 12 divisions in Europe. . ."
2. The second major task laid on JCS/Defense for the 13 July NSC meeting is to come up with some thinking on the magnitude and character of such permanent increase in the armed forces as may be necessary because of Soviet-instigated increase of tension. You mentioned at Hyannis Port Mr. McNamara remarked that he would need at least a couple of weeks (?) to handle this one, so perhaps JCS/Defense will be coming up with an interim position of some sort.
3. In short, it would seem to me that your time with General Lemnitzer on the subject of Berlin could most profitably be spent in making sure that you are current on what the JCS has done, is doing, and anticipates it will have to do. Although this seems like a large and rather vague order, I am afraid it is probably the best way, since the records and files to which we have so far had access leave one with some degree of mental confusion.
4. As one example of trying to keep you ahead of the game, Colonel Ewell has suggested that you ask General Lemnitzer for a copy of the "Rowny Study" on NATO, at whatever stage of approval it has now reached. We understand that there is some Joint Staff reluctance to turn this loose to you until it is in more finished form, but God knows by then it might be too late.

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